DODGE COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING 127 EAST OAK STREET JUNEAU, WI 53039 MARCH 25, 2013

The Dodge County Land Conservation Committee met on March 25, 2013 beginning at 8:30 AM in Room 1A of the Dodge County Administration Building.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chair Ed Nelson at 8:30 AM with the following members present: Ed Nelson, Dale Macheel, Gerald Adelmeyer, Howard Kriewald, MaryAnn Miller, William Muche, and Bob Roell.

Also Present: Marc Bethke, Land Conservation Department (LCD) County Conservationist; Jim Mielke, County Administrator; Kathy Eggers, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS); and Susan Blachowiak, USDA-Farm Services Agency (FSA).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND PERMIT CHAIR TO DEVIATE FROM AGENDA TO EFFICIENTLY CONDUCT MEETING: Motion by Miller to approve the agenda and to permit the Chair to deviate from the agenda to efficiently conduct the meeting, seconded by Kriewald. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Kriewald to approve the minutes of the February 25, 2013 meeting; seconded by Muche. Motion carried.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES/COMMENTS: There were no public appearances or comments.

AGENCY ADVISOR REPORTS: Kathy Eggers reported on significant work activities and issues of the Juneau USDA-NRCS Field Office. Susan Blachowiak reported on significant work activities and issues of the Juneau USDA-FSA office. Both Kathy and Susan reported that an extension of the federal farm bill through September of 2013 has been approved. However, while most programs will continue, there is uncertainty about available funding for program administration.

REVIEW OF BILLS AND REVENUES: The committee reviewed bills and revenues as shown on the attached listing.

APPROVAL AND SIGNING OF CONSERVATION PLANS: Marc Bethke presented three new and revised conservation plans under the Farmland Preservation Program. Kathy Eggers presented several conservation plans under the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and for Highly Erodible Lands (HEL) determinations. Motion by Kriewald to approve and sign the plans as presented; seconded by Roell. Motion carried.

REVIEW AND APPROVE 2014 DATCP/DNR JOINT GRANT APPLICATION: The committee reviewed the proposed 2014 DATCP/DNR Joint Grant Application. Motion by Miller to approve signing the 2014 DATCP/DNR Joint Grant Application as presented; seconded by Kriewald. Motion carried.

ATCP 50 RULE REVISION – AREAS OF CONCERN: The committee reviewed and discussed areas of concern with proposed rule changes to Administrative Rule ATCP 50. Marc Bethke will prepare an official presentation of comments to the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) for approval by the committee at the April monthly meeting.

SOUTHERN AREA LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION ANNUAL DUES INCREASE DISCUSSION: As requested by the Southern Area Land and Water Conservation Association (Southern Area Association), the committee discussed whether or not Dodge County would be willing and able to handle an increase in area association dues in 2014 to help defray travel expenses of area representatives to attend board meetings of the Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Association (WLWCA) Board. Marc Bethke reported that, to the best of his knowledge, dues have been \$50 per year for the past 30 years. After discussing the matter, motion by Kriewald to notify the Southern Area Association that Dodge County would be willing and able to pay up to an additional \$50.00 per year for membership dues to the Southern Area Association; seconded by Muche. Motion carried.

COUNTY CONSERVATIONIST'S REPORT: Marc Bethke presented the monthly County Conservationist's Report (see attached report).

COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS: Howard Kriewald reported on current issues / projects of concern to the Lake Sinissippi Improvement District. It was reported that the district has applied for a grant to do shoreline protection work around Harvester Island, continues to plan for a targeted dredging project in northern areas of the lake, and is finishing up work on the Hustisford dam renovation project. Bob Roell reported that he was unable to attend the March meeting of the Fox Lake Inland Lake District. However, Bob reported that the Town of Fox Lake is poised to approve amendments to their zoning ordinance that would provide for Farmland Preservation Zoning in the Town of Fox Lake, thereby making many town landowners eligible to participate in the Wisconsin Farmland Preservation Program. Dale Macheel and Ed Nelson reported on various breakout sessions that they attended while participating in the WLWCA Annual Conference in Wisconsin Dells on March 11-13, 2013. Sessions of special note included a session on working with legislators, and a session regarding farm fly-overs currently being carried out by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in Wisconsin.

CORRESPONDENCE: There was no significant correspondence to share at this meeting.

PER DIEMS: Motion by Miller, seconded by Roell to approve the regular per diems, in addition to the following:

Howard Kriewald – Lake Sinissippi Improvement District Meeting on February 27, 2013 – per diem and 20 miles. Motion carried.

Ed Nelson – WLWCA Annual Conference in Wisconsin Dells on March 11-13, 2013 – per diem for each day, and one (1) meal on March 11th for \$12.00.

Dale Macheel – WLWCA Annual Conference in Wisconsin Dells on March 11-13, 2013 – per diem for each day.

Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING: The next regular monthly meeting will be held on Monday, April 22, 2013 beginning at 8:30 AM in Room 1A of the Dodge County Administration Building, 127 East Oak Street, Juneau, Wisconsin.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before this committee, motion by Kriewald to adjourn at 10:30 AM; seconded by Miller. Motion carried.

Ed Nelson, Chair Gerald Adelmeyer, Secretary

Disclaimer: The above minutes may be approved, amended or corrected at the next committee meeting.

LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT BILLS & REVENUE

(BILLS)

Nancy Drummy - Nutrient Management Consulting Educational		
Services =	\$	240.00
Lidtke Motors – U-Haul Rental Truck Down payment for Tree		
Program =	<u>\$</u>	165.35
TOTAL =	\$	405.35

(REVENUE)

UWEX – Farmer Nutrient Management Training Expenses for 2012 =	\$ 854.46
26 Small Packet Tree Orders =	\$ 909.96
Wisconsin Surplus Auction – Sale of 1999 Ford F-150 =	\$ 2,036.79
DNR – 3 rd & 4 th Quarters 2012 Wildlife Crop Damage Reimbursement =	\$ 23,701.21
	27,502.42

MARCH 2013 COUNTY CONSERVATIONIST REPORT

SIGNIFICANT WORK ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS:

- Stopped taking orders for small packs of trees on February 26th we sold 23,000 trees for distribution in spring 2013 a new record high
- Continued to assist many Farmland Preservation Program participants with various questions/issues regarding tax credit eligibility, conservation compliance requirements, etc. - signed nine certificates of compliance to enroll nearly 2,000 new acres into the program so far in 2013
- Revised job descriptions for all staff positions in the Land Conservation Department
- Attended WLWCA Annual Conference in Wisconsin Dells March 11-13th
- Dealt with several complaint calls regarding discharges from manure spreading discussed with DNR investigator Dan Heim – directed staff to make contact with the farmers involved
- Coordinated a multi-agency "gathering" on March 20th at the USDA Service Center in Juneau to share current work projects and programs of each agency, and to determine if there are areas of common ground where two or more agencies could work together

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS:

• April 4, 2013 – public hearing in Madison on proposed changes to ATCP 50 – deadline for written comments is April 30th